

**SUBJECT: VIETNAM-ERA UNACCOUNTED FOR STATISTICAL REPORT**

**BACKGROUND:** The Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service, and the Department of State report the current numbers of Americans who are unaccounted for in Southeast Asia:

**AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

<u>COMPONENT</u>	<u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u>					<b>TOTALS</b>
	VN	VS	LA	CB	CH	
ARMY	9	450	95	24	0	<b>578</b>
NAVY	263	89	19	0	7	<b>378</b>
MARINE CORPS	22	174	16	8	0	<b>220</b>
AIR FORCE	194	160	231	18	0	<b>603</b>
COAST GUARD	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
CIVILIANS	1	20	8	5	0	<b>34</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1813</b> *
<u>PURSUIT STATUS</u>						
FURTHER PURSUIT	193	486	302	46	4	<b>1031</b>
DEFERRED	39	53	28	5	0	<b>125</b>
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	257	354	39	4	3	<b>657</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1813</b>

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH

VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH

CB = CAMBODIA

CH = CHINA

LA = LAOS

\* INCLUDES 468 AT SEA/OVER WATER LOSSES

**AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR POST-1973 REPATRIATED BY:**

VIETNAM	541	*
CHINA	3	**
LAOS	198	
CAMBODIA	28	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>***</b>

**NOTES:**

\* 34 remains from the Official Died in Captivity Lists provided by the Vietnamese in 1973.

\*\* 2 ashes returned from China.

\*\*\* 4 remains were recovered and turned over to the U.S. by indigenous personnel; 1 from North Vietnam and 3 from Laos. They are included in the country count.

**These changes represent the accounting of two Air Force officers, one previously missing from North Vietnam, and one from Laos.**

**U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS:** Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 22722 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

#### **SUMMARY OF REPORTS**

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1976
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	5243
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5734
DOGTAGS	9769
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22722</b>

- a. Of the 1976 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1942 (98.28%) reports are resolved.
  - 1341 (67.86%) reports were equated to Americans who are accounted for (i.e., PW returnees, missionaries, civilians jailed at various times for violation of Vietnamese codes).
  - 45 (2.28%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
  - 556 (28.14%) reports were determined to be fabrications.
- b. The remaining 34 (1.72%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
  - 31 (1.57%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
  - 3 (0.15%) reported sightings of Americans in a non-captive environment (i.e. working as truck drivers; married with Vietnamese family).
- c. Since mid-1982, 9769 “dog tag” reports on 8275 individuals reveal the following trends:
  - 7719 (93.28%) of those names reported are individuals who returned to the U.S. alive
  - 386 (4.66%) of the reports correspond to U.S. remains that have been recovered/identified and buried in the U.S.
  - 170 (2.05%) relate to individuals who remain unaccounted for.
- d. In all instances, dog tag reports receive thorough investigative attention, to include informing the military services of those reports with valid names so next of kin can be advised as appropriate.

**The following timeline presents an overview of unresolved firsthand sightings by the year of the sighting:**

#### **TIMELINE: UNRESOLVED LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS**

Pre-1976	1976-1980	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	<b>Total</b>
24	3	0	1	0	3	3	<b>34</b>